

## REPORT ON INFORMATION COLLECTED CONCERNING APPLICANT

Under section 60835 of title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, the Bureau of State Audits is responsible for collecting information concerning applicants for the Citizens Redistricting Commission that is needed by the Applicant Review Panel to perform its responsibilities. This is a report by Bureau staff in compliance with that responsibility.

Name of Applicant: Leland T. Saito.

Information: As discussed by Applicant in his second essay answer on his supplemental application regarding his ability to be impartial, Applicant has written several published works regarding race, ethnicity, and politics. Research by Bureau staff found that Applicant has written at least two books that appear to be relevant to the work of the Citizens Redistricting Commission: *Race and Politics: Asian Americans, Latinos, and Whites in a Los Angeles Suburb* (1998) and *The Politics of Exclusion: The Failure of Race-Neutral Policies in Urban America* (2009). Applicant also has contributed chapters to two books regarding politics, race, and redistricting: "Asian Americans and Multiracial Political Coalitions: New York City's Chinatown and Redistricting, 1990-1991" found in *Asian Americans and Politics: An Exploration*, edited by Gordon H. Chang (2001), and "The Political Significance of Race: Asian American and Latino Redistricting Debates in California and New York City" found in *Racial Transformations: Latinos and Asians Remaking the United States*, edited by Nicholas De Genova (2006). Staff research also found that Applicant has written several journal articles relevant to redistricting, including "Asian Americans and Latinos in San Gabriel Valley, California: Ethnic Political Cooperation and Redistricting 1990-91" (1993).

Bureau staff contacted Stewart Kwoh, the author of one of Applicant's letters of recommendation, to confirm the information provided in the letter and receive any additional information that may be relevant. Mr. Kwoh confirmed the information in the letter. He also stated that Applicant was part of a coalition that followed the 1990 redistricting of California. Mr. Kwoh added that the coalition was spearheaded by the Asian Pacific American Legal Center and was one in which the Asian American and Pacific Islander community worked with African-American and Latino groups. Mr. Kwoh stated that the media expected a showdown between the groups, but the showdown didn't happen because of the work done by the coalition. Mr. Kwoh also stated that Applicant worked closely with various interest groups during the 2000 redistricting in the City of San Diego. Mr. Kwoh emphasized that Applicant would be well suited to serving as a member of the Citizens Redistricting Commission because, in addition to studying redistricting as an academic, he has been part of the process.

Recommendation: None.

Name and Title of Person Submitting Report: Steven Benito Russo, Chief of Investigations.

Report Date: September 19, 2010.